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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
July 20, 1999

TO: The Federal Communications Commission
FR: Ron Frizzell
President, WLAM AM&FM; WMWX

Re: Low Power FM

We serve the small community of Lewiston-Auburn, Maine. While there are 5 licensed facilities to this area, 3 of them originate programming from over 15 miles away. The area we primarily serve is approximately 60,000 people.

The reason the other stations left is because it is too hard to make a living with 5 radio stations in two small towns. Often we too are tempted to move out and become a "move in" to the larger market of Portland, Maine. However, we have stayed. We serve this community and last year gave out grants of over \$200,000 to community non-profit organizations.

Because of the population density of this market, a Low Power FM facility ✓ would cover it well, and compete strongly with us. The difference of just one more station would be enough to push us to Portland. It would be the straw that breaks our camel's back. There is just enough revenue. We have been here 24 years and watched 5 radio bankruptcies. That's why the new owners moved the stations out of this market.

Largest markets such as Boston, Providence, etc., probably can use the diversity. It won't ruin the revenue support. In rural states like Maine, where many stations serve their communities of 2500 to 75,000 people, most stations barely hang on. Adding new competitors whose signals would strongly compete in these tiny markets will ruin community service, as we know it. Stations that lose money will fulfill FCC requirements without ever really benefiting their communities.

Please take a look at the severe impact this addition would have on America's smaller communities. Thank You.

Cc: Suzanne Goucher, The Maine Association of Broadcasters

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March 26, 1999

Commissioner Kennard:

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It has come to my attention that there are groups wishing to secure a broadcast license for low-power FM radio stations. I am in full support of this idea. I spend much of my time listening to the radio and think there is a serious lack in the broadcast of community affairs.

Smaller businesses rely upon local neighborhoods for their livelihood. They often cannot afford to advertise on television/radio because of their size. By allowing low-power FM radio stations to broadcast within the community, offering advertising at a substantially lower cost, we will be giving the small businessman a fighting chance. This will help give incentive to emerging businesses as well as help keep the current ones local.

I also believe that low-power FM radio stations give communities the opportunity to get information out to their neighborhoods concerning local events. Often these local events have cultural/traditional ties to the community and help provide a sense of belonging. This sense of belonging will strengthen the community, raise awareness, and increase security in neighborhoods. And these are just a few of the benefits.

I strongly agree with and support low-power FM broadcasting. I hope that you will take my points into consideration when you make your decisions on low-power FM stations. Thank You.

Sincerely,



Kevin Wyatt